

## **FISCAL NOTE**

### **SB 57 – HB 101**

February 12, 2007

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Creates the *Jason Flatt Act of 2007* to require that in-service training for teachers and principals include at least two hours of instruction in suicide prevention each school year.

#### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

##### **Increase Local Govt. Expenditures\* - \$162,000**

###### Assumptions:

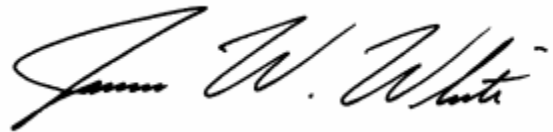
- Although suicide prevention materials may be obtained through the Jason Foundation, Inc. website at no cost, because the language of the bill specifically requires two hours of “instruction” to teachers in suicide prevention, it is assumed that training will include instruction in addition to materials which can be copied and read from the website.
- The additional training would be part of the existing five in-service days allotted to all teachers and staff.
- Some LEAs currently offer suicide training for teachers and principals, but do not require it; and many LEAs already have some materials on suicide prevention that could be used for training. However, some systems may choose to outsource the training to certified trainers.
- If at least one-half of LEAs are currently providing suicide prevention training, then one-half would require a training course.
- If those systems not currently providing training chose to outsource such training, the estimated cost based on the Youth Suicide Prevention Program of a one-hour training course on suicide prevention by a certified trainer including all materials for 40 participants is \$100 per hour.
- Two hours of training as required by the bill, is estimated to cost \$200 for each 40 participants.
- There are 60,691 teachers and 3,730 administrators in the state. Assuming one-half of these are currently receiving training, 32,330 would require suicide prevention training.
- The number of training sessions (40 participants per session) required to train 32,330 teachers and staff would be approximately 808.
- 808 (number of training sessions) x \$200 (cost of training 40 participants) = \$161,600 total cost statewide.

- Training costs using a certified trainer could vary from \$37,800 for a large school system to \$1,600 for a small school system.
- This is not a BEP component.

\*Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: *no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

**CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a more compact, stylized manner, followed by "W." and "White".

James W. White, Executive Director